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REPEAT SEX OFFENDER SENTENCED TO 20 YEARS IN PRISON IN MISSISSIPPI FOR POSSESSING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

WASHINGTON – Jerry Wayne Ramey, 40, a previously convicted sex offender from Meridian, Miss., was sentenced today to 20 years in prison for possessing multiple images of child pornography he acquired over the Internet, Assistant Attorney General Alice S. Fisher of the Criminal Division and U.S. Attorney Dunn Lampton for the Southern District of Mississippi announced today.

Chief U.S. District Judge Henry T. Wingate also ordered Ramey to pay a \$1500 fine and serve a lifetime of supervised release. Upon his release from prison, Ramey will be required to register as a sex offender in any jurisdiction where he lives, works or goes to school. In addition, computer and related equipment seized from his home in 2006 will be forfeited. Finally, Ramey is prohibited from having any contact with any children under the age of 18.

Ramey pleaded guilty on Sept. 28, 2007, to one count of possessing child pornography. Ramey's guilty plea stemmed from a lead obtained by law enforcement after he was arrested in the Northern District of Alabama for another child exploitation crime. In that case, Ramey traveled from his home in Meridian to Birmingham, Ala., to have sex with an 11-year-old girl whom he believed was being prostituted. In fact, Ramey had been communicating with an undercover law enforcement officer when he responded to an advertisement on the "Craigslit" website and sought the illegal sexual liaison. While investigating Ramey's unlawful travel and online activities, law enforcement discovered that Ramey possessed sexually explicit images of minors at his Meridian home.

On October 3, 2006, Ramey was sentenced to 12 years and 4 months in prison for his illegal activities in the Northern District of Alabama. Ramey was then indicted on May 7, 2007, in the current case and pleaded guilty.

This case was investigated by the Atlanta Division of the U.S. Postal Inspection Service and Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Meridian Resident Agency. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Glenda Haynes of the Southern District of Mississippi and Trial Attorney Jill Trumbull-Harris of the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section.

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